

REFERENCE TITLE: AIMS test; scoring system

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-eighth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2008

SB 1280

Introduced by
Senator Huppenthal

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-741, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO PUPIL ASSESSMENT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 15-741, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-741. Assessment of pupils

5 A. The state board of education shall:

6 1. Adopt rules for purposes of this article pursuant to title 41,
7 chapter 6.

8 2. Adopt and implement an Arizona instrument to measure standards test
9 to measure pupil achievement of the state board adopted academic standards in
10 reading, writing and mathematics in at least four grades designated by the
11 board. The board shall determine the manner of implementation. The board
12 may administer assessments of the academic standards in social studies and
13 science. Prior to the administration of the tests to pupils and following
14 the statewide piloting of the tests, the board shall approve, at a public
15 meeting, the Arizona instrument to measure standards test. THE STATE BOARD
16 SHALL DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A SCORING SYSTEM THAT
17 SCALES THE SCORES OBTAINED BY PUPILS IN GRADES TWO THROUGH NINE ON THE
18 ARIZONA INSTRUMENT TO MEASURE STANDARDS TEST TO THE ARIZONA INSTRUMENT TO
19 MEASURE STANDARDS TEST GIVEN TO PUPILS IN HIGH SCHOOL.

20 3. Adopt and implement a statewide nationally standardized
21 norm-referenced achievement test in reading, language arts and mathematics,
22 except that the superintendent of public instruction may determine additional
23 grade levels for which pupils are tested. The tests shall be consistent with
24 the state standards and shall be administered during the spring of each year
25 between March 15 and May 1.

26 4. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are uniform
27 throughout the state.

28 5. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are able to be
29 scored in an objective manner and that the tests are not intended to advocate
30 any sectarian, partisan or denominational viewpoint.

31 6. Ensure that the results of the nationally standardized
32 norm-referenced achievement tests established as provided in this article are
33 comparable to associated grade equivalents, percentiles and stanines derived
34 from a multistate sample.

35 7. Include within its budget all costs pertaining to the tests
36 prescribed in this article. If sufficient monies are appropriated, the state
37 board may provide norm-referenced achievement test services to school
38 districts which request assistance in testing pupils in grades additional to
39 those required by this section.

40 8. Use subtests of the statewide nationally standardized
41 norm-referenced achievement test as designated by the state board to assess
42 pupils in reading, language arts and mathematics, at a level appropriate for
43 their grade level.

1 9. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on achievement
2 related nontest indicators, including information on graduation rates by
3 ethnicity and dropout rates by ethnicity for each grade level. Before the
4 survey, the state board of education shall approve at a public meeting the
5 nontest indicators on which data will be collected. In conducting the survey
6 and collecting data, the state board of education shall not violate the
7 provisions of the family educational rights and privacy act (P.L. 93-380), as
8 amended, nor disclose personally identifiable information.

9 10. Establish a fair and consistent method and standard by which
10 norm-referenced test scores from schools in a district may be evaluated
11 taking into consideration demographic data. The board shall establish
12 intervention strategies to assist schools with scores below the acceptable
13 standard. The board shall annually review district and school scores and
14 shall offer assistance to school districts in analyzing data and implementing
15 intervention strategies. The board shall use the adopted norm-referenced
16 test and methods of data evaluation for a period of at least ten years.

17 11. Participate in other assessments that provide national comparisons
18 as needed.

19 B. The standardized norm-referenced achievement tests adopted by the
20 state board as provided in subsection A shall be given annually. The tests
21 shall be administered over a one week period between March 15 and May 1.
22 Nontest indicator data and other information shall be collected at the same
23 time as the collection of standardized norm-referenced achievement test data.

24 C. Local school district governing boards shall:

25 1. Administer the tests prescribed in subsection A.

26 2. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on achievement
27 related nontest indicator data as required by the state board including
28 information related to district graduation and dropout rates. In conducting
29 the survey and collecting data, the governing board shall not violate the
30 provisions of the family educational rights and privacy act (P.L. 93-380), as
31 amended, nor disclose personally identifiable information.

32 D. A test for penmanship shall not be required pursuant to this
33 article.